

"(4) EXEMPTION.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the establishment and activities of an advisory group in accordance with this subsection.

"(d) LIMITATION.—The amount of a grant under this section shall not exceed \$100,000.

"(e) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The non-Federal share of the costs of an activity conducted with a grant under this section shall be 25 percent of such costs.

"(2) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Secretary may apply to the non-Federal share of an activity conducted with a grant under this section the amount of funds, and the fair market value of property and services, provided by non-Federal sources and used for the activity.

"(f) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of amounts available each fiscal year to carry out this section, the Secretary may expend not more than 6 percent to pay the administrative expenses necessary to carry out this section.

"(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) DESIGNATED STRANDING REGION.—the term 'designated stranding region' means a geographic region designated by the Secretary for purposes of administration of this title.

"(2) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' has the meaning given that term in section 3(12)(A).

"(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2003, to remain available until expended."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3(12)(B) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1362(12)(B)) is amended by inserting "(other than section 408)" after "title IV".

(e) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in the first section of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (86 Stat. 1027) is amended by striking the items relating to sections 408 and 409 and inserting the following:

"Sec. 408. John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue assistance Grant Program.

"Sec. 409. Authorization of appropriations.

"Sec. 410. Definitions."

NOTICES OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, October 19, 2000, at 3:00 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on potential timber sale contract liability incurred by the government as a result of timber sale contract cancellations.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC. 20510. For further information, please call Mark Rey at (202) 224-6170.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the infor-

mation of the Senate and the public that an oversight hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, October 19, 2000, at 9:30 a.m. in room SH-216 of the Hart Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to conduct oversight on the Department of Energy's recent decision to release 30 million barrels of crude oil from the strategic petroleum reserve and the bid process used to award contracts regarding same.

For further information, please call Brian Malnak, Deputy Staff Director at (202) 224-8119 or Betty Nevitt, Staff Assistant at (202) 224-0765.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following Appropriations Committee staff members and intern be granted floor privileges during the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 4461 for the fiscal year 2001 Agriculture Appropriations Act, and any votes that may occur in relation thereto: Rebecca Davies, Martha Scott Poindexter, Hunt Shipman, Les Spivey, Marc Dulaney, and Galen Fountain.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2000

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until the hour of 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 17. I further ask unanimous consent that on Tuesday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then proceed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 4461, the Agriculture appropriations bill, as under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Senate will not be in session on Monday. On Tuesday, the Senate will resume consideration of the conference report on this Agriculture appropriations bill—very important legislation. The debate will be limited to Tuesday's session and approximately 2 hours on Wednesday morning, with the vote scheduled to occur at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday on the Agriculture appropriations bill.

For the remainder of the week, the Senate is expected to complete all action necessary for sine die adjournment. I pause for applause. That is certainly what we should do. It is possible we can do it. We were able to get a

good deal accomplished this week. It took a lot of work on both sides of the aisle. We were able to get a package of five bills done, which included, of course, the sex trafficking issue as well as Aimee's law and the Violence Against Women Act. We were able to pass four appropriations bills and complete action on the Defense authorization bill and begin debate on the Agriculture appropriations bill.

Next week we will have to deal with the foreign operations conference report final passage in some form; the Commerce-State-Justice appropriations bill; the Labor-HHS and Education appropriations conference report, and there are several tax provisions that need to be considered, including the FSC issue that we have been trying to get cleared, a bill that came out of the Finance Committee to make sure the United States complies with WTO requirements. We need to get that completed as well as several other items that have broad support in the House and in the Senate and the administration.

So there are four categories that we will need to act on next week. I have been having conversations and meetings this morning with Members of both sides of the aisle and with the administration to try to help facilitate that.

I notice Senator CONRAD reacted positively to "both sides of the aisle."

I think it is clearly possible to complete our work by next Friday. I had hoped we could do it by Saturday, the 14th, but the unfortunate death of our friend and colleague, Congressman Vento from Minnesota, occurred and, therefore, Members are in Minnesota this morning for the funeral service. Clearly, we can get our work done next week, and we certainly will try to. Senators should expect votes throughout the day Wednesday and Thursday and into Friday, if it is necessary.

I yield to the Senator from North Dakota for a question or comment.

KEVIN SHAWN RUX

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, we have just learned very tragic news that a young man from my home State of North Dakota is among those now listed as missing and presumed dead on board the U.S.S. *Cole*.

He is Petty Officer 2nd Class Kevin Shawn Rux. I want to express my deepest sympathies to the family. Our Nation honors this young man for his service and sacrifice. Our prayers are with his family in their grief today, and with all the fathers, mothers, spouses, sons, and daughters of those who lost their loved ones in this terrible attack.

I want to reassure the family this Nation will not rest until we find the criminals responsible for the death of Kevin Shawn Rux and his shipmates. This country will hold them accountable for these murders. Again, we share the grief of the family of this young